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Standard Telugu for instruction in schools and colleges.

429 *Q.*—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government and the University have declined to recognize the 'Gramya' or what is called the 'Modern Telugu' as the standard for instruction in schools and colleges; if so, whether it is a fact that, notwithstanding their declared policy, the Telugu Board of Studies prescribed a book entitled 'Stories of Palnad Heroes' which is declared by the Telugu Pandits' Conference to have been written in that objectionable dialect; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the same book was disapproved by the Advisory Committee to Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Board on the ground stated above?

A.—(*a*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The Government notice from the University Calendar for 1923 that the book referred to has been prescribed for the Intermediate Examination of 1925. The Government are not aware that its dialect has been declared to be objectionable.

(*b*) The Government are not aware of the reasons of the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Board for not selecting the book; but it is obvious that a book which has been prescribed for the Intermediate Examination is not fit for the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Course.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—"I must invite attention of the hon. the Minister for Education to the answer given to clause (*b*) of my question which says "The Government are not aware of the reasons of the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Board for not selecting the book, but it is obvious that a book which has been prescribed for the Intermediate Examination is not fit for the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Course." Sir, may I ask whether the Secondary School Course Advisory Committee has proscribed the book for the Secondary School education on account of the fact that it is written in an objectionable style?"

(No answer.)

Free and compulsory elementary education.

430 *Q.*—Khan Bahadur HAJI ABD-UL-LAH HAJI QASIM SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(i) all the localities in the Presidency where free and compulsory elementary education is being given;

(ii) whether it is a fact that most of the local boards are not in a position to introduce free and compulsory elementary education on account of deficit budgets; and

(iii) the number of Arabic Mudrassahs now existing in this Presidency receiving State aid and what is the amount of State aid given to these institutions during each of the years 1921–22, 1922–23 and 1923–24?

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A.—(i) Sanction has been accorded to the introduction of free and compulsory elementary education within the areas under the jurisdiction of the following municipal councils :—

(1)	The Municipal Council,	Vellore.
(2)	Do.	Negapatam.
(3)	Do.	Kumbakonam.
(4)	Do.	Conjeeveram.
(5)	Do.	Erode.
(6)	Do.	Tellicherry.
(7)	Do.	Tiruppur.
(8)	Do.	Tinnevelly.
(9)	Do.	Chingleput.
(10)	Do.	Masulipatam.
(11)	Do.	Tanjore.
(12)	Do.	Mayavaram.
(13)	Do.	Coimbatore.*
(14)	Do.	Cochin.
(15)	Do.	Madura. †

Grants to the aided secondary schools.

431 *Q.*—Rao Sahib U. Rama Rao : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, has issued instructions to the District Educational Officers to the effect that no grants should in future be recommended for aided upper and lower secondary schools ;

(*b*) whether the previous sanction of the hon. the Minister for Education was obtained before the issue of such a circular ; and

(*c*) the circumstances which necessitated the adoption of such a step ?

A.—(*a*) The instructions issued by the Director of Public Instruction had reference to grants for the medical inspection of pupils and for furniture and books for secondary schools.

(*b*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*c*) The orders in respect of grants for medical inspection were necessitated by the fact that certain revised arrangements relating to such grants are under consideration ; and those in respect of grants for furniture and books were issued on account of financial stringency.

Rao Sahib U. Rama Rao :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister for Education with reference to the answer given in clause (*c*) as to what the revised arrangemants for medical inspection are ? "

1-15 p.m.

The hon. the Raja of Panagal :—" Sir, we were advised by medical experts that the whole question would be placed in the hands of the Health Committee. Local bodies which were consulted did not like it and therefore it is under consideration as to what should be the agency for the inspection of the schools."

* The Municipal Council, Coimbatore, has reported that it does not propose to give effect to the scheme for the present.

† The scheme will be given effect to from 1st April 1924.